The Signal experience

1LT Michael Davenport
Reserve Officers' Training Corps
Augusta State University
Bachelor of science in computer science

Automation officer in charge
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 63d Signal Battalion
Joint Task Force Aguila (Hurricane Mitch disaster relief), El Salvador

1LT Michael Davenport created a computer system from civilian equipment in El Salvador.

"We knew there would be a big data push for networking and technology. I think we really capitalized on that by providing the best support we could. Anybody can provide phones, but not everybody can provide data like we did. We raised the standards about 10 tiers. No longer can (Signal units) make excuses for not doing extremely bandwidth-intensive things, because we proved we can. As far as technology goes, I think we're right up with the civilian market. We took civilian equipment available today and implemented it into the Army systems."

CPT Paul Howard
Reserve Officers' Training Corps
North Georgia College
Bachelor of business administration

Signal officer
3d Infantry Division, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia
Operation Desert Thunder

CPT Paul Howard made radios and networks work in the hot, dusty desert.

"The Signal Regiment supports U.S. military aviation by distributing communications security, managing local area networks, and providing some training, maintenance support and secure Internet protocol routing network access support. My aviation brigade was colocated in Southwest Asia with the U.S., British, Australian, Kuwaiti, etc., air forces. Everyone's radios were different. Overcoming these obstacles took 75 percent of my time. Also, establishing and maintaining a LAN was very difficult in the hot and dusty environment. Working around problems was an implied daily task."